



Serial No.: 10/010,158  
Practitioner Docket No. 01950210007US1

*filed*

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: **Earl J. Votolato** ✓  
Serial No: 10/010,158 ✓  
Filed: November 13, 2001  
For: Bag Slitting Apparatus

Examiner: **Thomas J. Druan**  
Art Unit: 3724

10/16/03

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the Final Office Action dated June 19, 2003.

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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/010,158
Filing Date	November 13, 2001
First Named Inventor	Earl J. Votolato
Art Unit	3724
Examiner Name	Thomas J. Druan
Attorney Docket Number	019502.0007US1

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

8

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group                            |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information   |
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Robert D. Fish; Rutan & Tucker
Signature	
Date	9/29/03

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name	Barbara Hayashi		
Signature		Date	September 29, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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